Atty. Dkt. No. TREND-00101

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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

| Applicant: HUNTER, Robert R. )   | Examiner: TSAI, Carol S W                                |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|
| Serial No.: 10/615,572 )   | Art Unit: 2857   |  |  |
| Filing Date: July 8, 2003  | Confirmation No. 7405                                    |  |  |
| Entitled: A METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR READING AND CONTROLLING UTILITY CONSUMPTION | RESPONSE TO OFFICE<br>ACTION MAILED<br>DECEMBER 13, 2004 |  |  |

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir/Madame:

The following is in response to the Official Action mailed December 13, 2004:

PTO/SB/21 (02-04) JAN 1 9 2005 Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE perwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. Application Number 10/615,572 TRADEAN **TRANSMITTAL** Filing Date July 8, 2003 **FORM** First Named Inventor Robert R. HUNTER Art Unit (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) 2857 **Examiner Name** Carol S. W. TSAI Attorney Docket Number TREND-00101 Total Number of Pages in This Submission **ENCLOSURES** (Check all that apply) After Allowance communication Fee Transmittal Form Drawing(s) to Group Appeal Communication to Board Licensing-related Papers Fee Attached of Appeals and Interferences Appeal Communication to Group 1 Petition (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) Amendment/Reply Petition to Convert to a After Final Proprietary Information Provisional Application Power of Attorney, Revocation Status Letter Affidavits/declaration(s) Change of Correspondence Address Other Enclosure(s) (please Terminal Disclaimer Return Postcard, and copies Extension of Time Request Request for Refund **Express Abandonment Request** of IDSes submitted on CD, Number of CD(s) 9/29/2003 and 06/10/2004 Information Disclosure Statement Remarks Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT Firm Derek J. WESTBERG (Reg. No. 40,872) Individual name Signature Date Jan 2005 **CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING** 

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.

| Typed or printed name | Danjel RATOFF |      |              |
|-----------------------|---------------|------|--------------|
| Signature             | a Mall        | Date | Jan 14, 2005 |

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.



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Atty. Dkt. No. TREND-00101

Mailing Date: June 10, 2004

Serial No. 10/615,572

Filing Date: July 8, 2003

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Art Unit: 2857

Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR READING AND CONTROLLING UTILITY CONSUMPTION

Inventors: Robert R. HUNTER

Enclosed are:

1 page Form PTO/SB/08B 1 page Transmittal

1 page Information Disclosure Statement

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## Atty. Dkt. No. TREND-00101

Mailing Date: June 10, 2004

Serial No. 10/615,572

Filing Date: July 8, 2003

Art Unit: 2857

Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR READING AND CONTROLLING UTILITY CONSUMPTION

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Atty. Dkt. No. TREND-00101 Mailing Date: September 29, 2003 Application No. 10/615,572 Filing Date: 08-June-2003

Title: A Method and Apparatus for Reading and Controlling Utility Consumption

Inventor: Robert R. Hunter

## Enclosed are:

1 page Transmittal
3 Information Disclosure

1 Return Postcard

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